

for interagency initiatives and memoranda on environmental health policy. In January 2014, the Centers for Disease Control promoted Ms. Barnes to the prominent position of deputy associate general counsel for the CDC/ATSDR Branch. Over the years, she contributed to litigation efforts regarding the Agent Orange exposure studies, the Federal Advisory Committee Act-National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Diesel Study, Freedom of Information Act, ATSDR cost recovery, and the precedential Hanford Downwinders case.

Ms. Barnes also managed to find the time to advance scholarship and policy in her professional field by contributing to numerous publications, including two prominent public health law textbooks and several articles. In addition, she served as an adjunct professor at Georgia State University's and Emory University's law schools and as a guest lecturer at Duke University.

During her esteemed career, Ms. Barnes played a critical role in several significant public health activities and events, including emergency responses to the September 11th tragedy, anthrax threats, Ebola Virus, Zika, and several major natural disasters. Our nation and the global family are forever grateful for Ms. Barnes and so many other CDC employees who help keep us safe, healthy, and alive.

Today, I would like to thank Ms. Barnes for her 41 years of federal service, for her dedication to public health, public service, and education. As she prepares for a well-deserved retirement, I wish Ms. Barnes the very best as she embarks upon this next chapter.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, on December 3–4, 2019, I was absent from the House chamber. I remained in my district in South Carolina to attend to a family matter. Accordingly, I was unable to vote on five legislative measures on the floor.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

Aye on Roll Call No. 643: H. Res. 546, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Disapproving the Russian Federations inclusion in future Group of Seven summits until it respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors and adheres to the standards of democratic societies.

Aye on Roll Call No. 644 S. 178, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Uighur Intervention and Global Humanitarian Unified Response Act.

Aye on Roll Call No. 645: H. Res. 739, On Motion Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2534, the Insider Trading Prohibition Act.

Aye on Roll Call No. 646: H. Res. 739, On Agreeing to the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2534, the Insider Trading Prohibition Act.

Aye on Roll Call No. 647: S. 151, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
WHITNEY DOTSON

#### HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of long-time community advocate, Whitney Dotson.

Whitney Dotson's commitment to the good of his community is demonstrated by his career with the East Bay Regional Park District. Beginning as an appointed member of the Park District Advisory Committee, he later was elected to the Board of Directors where he worked on his passion for parks and health.

During his many years on the Board of Directors, Whitney has supported several significant projects, including the Atlas Road Bridge at Point Pinole, restoration of Albany Beach, and preservation of the North Richmond Shoreline. He also supported the completion of two Bay Trails, one between Pinole Shores and Bayfront Park and the other between Berkeley and Albany. Director Dotson fought to prevent commercial and residential development of the Breuner Marsh at Point Pinole, which was renamed the Dotson Family Marsh. Through this project, Director Dotson was able to continue the work of his father, Reverend Richard Dotson, to keep the marsh a natural place for everyone in the community to enjoy. Director Dotson has been described by his colleagues as tirelessly pursuing environmental protections in his community.

Director Dotson's service extends beyond his work with the East Bay Regional Park District. He is the president of the North Richmond Shoreline Open Space Alliance, Associate Director of the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, and Vice Chair of the Community Advisory Group. Throughout his tenure with the East Bay Regional Park District and through his philanthropic work, Director Dotson has fought to preserve open space and ensure a clean and healthy environment for generations to come.

Director Dotson departs the East Bay Regional Park District with a legacy of championing the environmental well-being of his community. We wish him great luck and joy in retirement.

#### IN HONOR OF LADY LIBERTY DAY

#### HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mr. GOODEN. Madam Speaker, the following Proclamation is in honor of Lady Liberty Day:

Whereas, in 1986, the City started planning, a pavilion that would showcase three flag poles—one for the American flag, the State flag and initially the Texas Sesquicentennial flag; and

Whereas, the pavilion was to provide a base structure for the placement of the Lady Liberty statue and to light flag poles at night; and

Whereas, on December 7, 1986, with a deep sense of pride in our state's heritage, Forney held its Sesquicentennial Flag Dedication ceremony commemorating a new City landmark and gateway to the City; and

Whereas, due to highway reconfiguration and construction, the monument and flag poles had to be taken down until they could be placed in a new location; and

Whereas, today, 33 years later, the City is proud to be able to re-dedicate the redesigned and rebuilt Lady Liberty Monument, bringing back a much-loved City landmark and gateway to the City; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, I, Lance Gooden, representative of the 5th District of Texas, do hereby recognize the 7th day of December 2019, as Lady Liberty Day.

RECOGNIZING ILLINOIS STATE  
TROOPER TODD HANNEKEN OF  
ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DISTRICT 10

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Illinois State Trooper Todd Hanneken for his heroic service on May 8, 2018. On that day Trooper Todd Hanneken was on the scene of a previous accident on the northbound lane of Interstate 57 when suddenly a semi-truck slammed into the last vehicle in line. The vehicle, driven by Andrew Bergan, burst into flames as it was thrust forward into the car in front of it. When Mr. Bergan's truck came to rest, the cab was engulfed in flames and its doors were blocked. As others attempted to keep the fire at bay, Trooper Hanneken kicked out the windshield and, with the help of two others, pulled Mr. Bergan to safety. The quick response saved Mr. Bergan's life.

In recognition of Trooper Hanneken's actions that day, he was awarded the Medal of Honor on October 30, 2019. This honor is awarded to Illinois State Police personnel who "perform a heroic act that by its nature results in saving a life, preventing a serious crime or apprehending a person who committed a serious crime." Since the events of May 8, 2018, Trooper Hanneken has called Mr. Bergan several times, visited the hospital and met with his parents, while Mr. Bergan was present for the awarding of the Medal of Honor.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I stand to recognize Trooper Todd Hanneken for his heroism. His dedication to duty and to his fellow man is an inspiration to us all. I wish him the very best, along with all of the survivors of the crash that day.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

#### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men

and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, law, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Madam Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

"Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to three extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are: Sheerine Karamzadeh, Texas Tech University; Elisabeth Foster, University of Texas; and Alejandro Izaguirre, St. Edward's University.

Madam Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright, and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

#### CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF JEAN WEST

#### HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Jean West, a long-time resident of Detroit, Michigan, who will celebrate her eightieth birthday on December 11, 2019.

Ms. West has always been an engaged and active member of her community. She draws her strength from her family and community. As the matriarch of her family, she has always strived to uphold values that reflect strength, dedication and community and serves as a role model for her children and loved ones. Her strong family values are reflected in the life she leads and her willingness to always do for others.

Ms. West has never shied away from standing up for what she believes in. As an advocate, she doggedly pursues better for her community. She has remained active in the fight for civil rights, working with organizations like the NAACP to ensure equity for people of color and for her community. She continues to fight for a better community. Whether it's advocating for resources or uplifting her neighbors, it is clear that she believes in the good of people and future of Detroit.

Please join me in wishing Ms. Jean West the happiest of birthdays.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF HATSUKO "SUSIE" KUSAKA

#### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Hatsuko "Susie" Kusaka from the City of Anaheim, California.

Born on November 14, 1919 in Rexburg, Idaho, Mrs. Kusaka has lived a rich life: raising a family, tending to crops of potatoes and strawberries, and caring for guests at the Disneyland Hotel.

Susie spent most of her childhood in Southern California and Japan. After marrying Shuichi Kusaka, she moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho, where she and her husband ran a potato farm. During that time, their four children—Warren, Alice, Ted, and Naomi—were born.

In 1953, the family moved to California, settling in Anaheim, where they made a living as strawberry farmers.

In 1978, at age 59, Susie began a second career with Disneyland Hotel. In 1987, she was named national "Room Keeper of the Year" by the American Hotel Association. She retired in 2009 after 22 years of hard work and dedication. In June of 2016, she moved into Walnut Village Retirement Community in Anaheim.

Along with enjoying her community's many amenities, she delights in visits from her family members, including her grandson, Brian, and a granddaughter-in-law, Katharine.

Please join me in wishing my constituent, Susie Hatsuko a happy 100th birthday and many more years of good health and happiness.

#### RECOGNIZING JOHN DITSLEAR

#### HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2019*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Ditslear on his retirement from the Office of Mayor of Noblesville, Indiana. A well-respected public servant, Mayor Ditslear's career has been defined by his steadfast leadership of Noblesville. His many decades of public service in a number of different roles has greatly impacted the community and its citizens.

A native son of Dublin, Ohio, Mayor Ditslear graduated from my alma mater, Miami Univer-

sity in Oxford, Ohio, with a degree in finance. After graduation, Mayor Ditslear chose to serve his country by joining the United States Navy. Serving in the early 1960s, at a time of tumultuous international relations, Mayor Ditslear and his fellow sailors were tasked with transporting their Marine and Army counterparts to active theaters in Vietnam. During this time in the United States Navy, Mayor Ditslear rose to the rank of lieutenant while developing his leadership and situational management skills.

After completing his naval service, Mayor Ditslear moved to Noblesville in 1966, where he invested a great deal of time in his community as a volunteer. He served as a board member for many community organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, Noblesville Boys & Girls Club, Riverview Hospital Foundation, Hamilton East Public Library and the United Way of Hamilton County. Ever the leader, Mayor Ditslear is also a past president of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, the Noblesville Redevelopment Commission, the Life Underwriter's Association and the Indianapolis chapter of Chartered Life Underwriters. It is clear that Mayor Ditslear's service to the citizens of Noblesville has reached far beyond his time in public office.

After his service in the Navy, Mayor Ditslear entered into the business world joining the American United Life Insurance Company in Indianapolis. His success in the insurance business led him to start his own company Ditslear Insurance, with offices in Indianapolis and Noblesville. After many prosperous years, Ditslear Insurance merged into the Ditslear Elmer Group, where success continued.

Mayor Ditslear made his initial foray into elected office with three terms on the Noblesville School Board, from 1984 to 1992 and then again from 2000 to 2004. This experience helped to prepare Mayor Ditslear for the rigors of serving in higher public office. When the opportunity presented itself in 2003, he chose to run for mayor of Noblesville, a race that he would go on to win against four general election opponents.

After assuming the Office of Mayor of Noblesville in 2004, and later joining the Republican Party, Mayor Ditslear would lead the city in continued growth over his four terms and became the longest tenured mayor in the history of Noblesville. His successful stewardship of the local economy has had major impacts on both the operations of the city and its citizens. Since 2004, the assessed value of the taxable property increased 134 percent from \$2.4 billion to \$6.04 billion today. By 2016, the population of Noblesville grew by over 10,000 people to more than 60,000 residents. This growth led to the school system adding additional schools to support the younger population and helping to improve access to education.

Mayor Ditslear led several quality of life initiatives, resulting in the development of Hamilton Town Center, and Federal Commons in addition to four new parks. Mayor Ditslear also worked to increase the amount of outdoor walking trails 183 percent by extending the Midland Trace Trail from Westfield to the center of Noblesville. His focus on the heart of the city also included renovating the downtown area through facade grants and road improvements and a focus on the White River. The Riverwalk Trail project provides a walkway down to the White River and provides citizens